



9:00 AM

April 23, 2021

The State of Maryland is operating under an Elevated Level II status due to the COVID-19 epidemic. As such, this meeting was held online through GoToWebinar.

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

Members:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Jon Morrison, Chair | Kristi Pier |
| Antoine RJ Wright | Lt. Laura Beck |
| Eli Glazier | Marian Vessels |
| Gabriel Rose | Marquette Rogers |
| Heather Ersts | Patti Stevens |
| Jeff Hirsch | Pierre Stewart |
| Jim Titus | Steve Friedman |
| John Wetmore | Steve Green |
| Marshall Edwards | |

Absent Members:

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|----------------|---------------------|
| Andrew Mengel | Karen Schonfeld |
| Chelsea Hayman | Sarah Lipkin Sularz |

Non-Members:

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| Brigitte Carty | Carol Kachadoorian | Charlene Mingus |
| Chris Nichols | Cindy Burch | Daniel Paschall |
| David Greene | Dominic Scali | Heather Dunigan |
| Jack Keene | Jaime McKay | Jeff Dunckel |
| Joe Kelley | Joe Rodgers | Jon Korin |
| Jon Mayer | Kim Minseok | Larry Schoen |
| Lee Borror | Leslie Sandoz | Mandela Echefu |
| Michael Bomgardner | Patrick Hudnall | Patrick McMahon |
| Paul Hubble | Rodney Tissue | Roy Gothie |
| Sharon Guida | Sue Veith | Tina Williams |

Staff:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Marty Baker | Nate Evans | Francine Waters |
| Catherine Skeeter | | |

I. Welcome & Introductions (10 min)

Jon Morrison, Chair opened the meeting with introductions of committee members and MDOT support staff.

II. Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes (5 min)

A revised agenda was presented with removed the Bikeways Annual Report and allowed for more general discussion during the Public Comment time. The Bikeways Annual Report was addressed during agency updates. Jim Titus motioned to accept the revised agenda. Steve Green seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to accept the revised agenda.

Jim Titus moved to approve the minutes of the January 2021 MBPAC meeting. Pierre Stewart seconded the motion. The January 23, 2021 meeting minutes were approved by the committee.



III. MBPAC Annual Report Review and Approval (10 min)

The inaugural MBPAC Annual Report was drafted and reviewed by MBPAC members with assistance from MDOT TSO staff. The draft annual report was presented to the Committee for approval. Longtime MBPAC member Jim Titus stated that the report was a long-needed product and illustrates the Committee work. Kristi Pier motioned to accept the annual report. Patti Stevens seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously voted to approve the report. The report will be posted to the MBPAC website and distributed to Secretary Slater and Governor Hogan.

IV. Public Comment (30 minutes)

Jon Morrison opened the floor to public comments and deferred to Nate Evans. Nate stated that Governor Hogan had received a constituent's letter requesting a ghost bike program. Marty Baker indicated that Secretary Slater's response was to decline the request but focus on other meaningful roadway improvements to reduce crashes. Marty also stated that such requests will be referred to the committee.

The Capital Trails Coalition, in partnership with a team of experts, spent two years developing an impact report to quantify the economic, health, and environmental benefits of our region's 881-mile multi-use trail network. Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 2:00 PM [Zoom](#)

Jon Korin, president of the Bicycle Advocates of Annapolis Anne Arundel (BikeAAA) shared that the county's first traffic playground will open next week and that the Lifeline 100 will be held on October 3rd, 2021. With the coming federal funding, Jon is concerned with Maryland's readiness for a federal infrastructure bill and suggested the Baltimore Metropolitan Council review Maryland's grant efficiency as a Unified Planning and Work Program (UPWP) item. Marty Baker replied that MDOT is better aligning grant projects with administrative changes.

Daniel Paschall, Patti Stevens and Brigitte Carty hope that Maryland will pursue large trail infrastructure projects under the RAISE program.

Jim Titus indicated that the National Conference for the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCMUTCD) has received comments from state agencies, including MDOT, for the next version of the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Maryland has its own version, which will be updated following the federal version's updating. Jim would like to see more progressive infrastructure adopted with the coming updates.

V. MBPAC Subcommittee Reports (10 minutes)

Marian Vessels shared that the Pedestrian (ad hoc) Subcommittee hosted the initial kick-off meeting with more than 30 participants. The subcommittee discussed MDOT SHA's Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, other initiatives and future meeting dates.

VI. Citizen and Partner Agency Updates (20 min)

Nate Evans shared that MDOT Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program will accept FY22 applications between May 3 and June 3, 2021. \$3.8m is available in the competitive bid program.



Nate also shared that the inaugural Bikeways Program Annual Report is available online, which documents completed, awarded and on-going project status.

Francine Waters announced that MDOT Secretary's Office is leading a Transportation Data Equity initiative with the University of Washington to use crowdsourced data for accessible, pedestrian trip planning.

Jeff Dunckel (MDOT Maryland Highway Safety Office) shared that the Look Alive Campaign kicks off on Whitehall Road in Anne Arundel County for a 3 Foot Enforcement awareness event. This will be the first Maryland event using passing measurement technology to enforce the 3 Foot Law.

Jaime McKay (MDOT Maryland Transit Administration) shared that new MTA shared bike bus lanes are being installed as part of the North Avenue Rising project. Mobility corrals are developing around Baltimore at transit stops. MTA is coordinating with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) on the Patapsco Regional Greenway development with light rail interaction. MTA is investigating a feasibility study for a shared use path between the Monocacy MARC station to the adjacent Monocacy Battlefield.

Eli Glazier (Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission (MNCPPC)) shared that the Montgomery County pedestrian survey was conducted asking on existing walking conditions, recommendations and benchmarking tools. 60,000 households were contacted by postcards for the survey with results indicating a 10% walk commute, more than the 2.4% indicated in the American Community Survey.

Kristi Pier (Maryland Department of Health) shared that no responses were received for the Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) projects in Washington, Somerset and St. Mary's County. The projects will be readvertised.

Heather Ersts (Maryland Department of Commerce, Office of Tourism) announced National Bike Month videos are available. The C&O Canal is the 8th most visited national park.

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) asks you to share how your transportation behavior has been altered by the pandemic. The purpose of this survey is to understand the transportation experiences of Maryland residents and employees throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey is now open through May 1. Individuals over the age of 18 who have lived or worked in the state of Maryland since January 2020 are eligible to participate. Your survey response will help inform leaders about the impact on our transportation system in this critical time. [Take the MDOT Pandemic Travel Survey](#)

MDOT also announces the Commuter Partner Program. Commuter Choice Maryland partners with organizations to help them promote commuter benefits, and also recognizes employers across the state who are leaders in promoting alternative commuting options and benefits.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) DNR has received our 2021 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) apportionment from the National Park Service and we plan

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Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

to open a competitive grant round in September of this year. LWCF is a 50/50 matching grant program to Counties and Municipalities that provides funds for acquisition and/or development of public outdoor recreation facilities. The LWCF program has funded other multi-use trail projects in the past, such as the Western MD Rail Trail.

VII. 2021 Maryland Legislative Session (20 min)

Jon Morrison provided a summary on legislation considered before the Maryland General Assembly for the 2021 session. The main legislation to pass is the Vulnerable Road User bill, which is awaiting the Governor's signature. The Vulnerable Road User Bill (HB 118/SB 293) has been supported by MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) and the State Highway Administration (SHA).

VIII. Western Maryland Initiatives Update (50 min)

Steve Green, MBPAC's Western Maryland representative, led a presentation on various initiatives in Garrett, Allegany and Washington Counties including Garrett Trails, Fork Run, The presentation illustrated the recreational nature of trails, Great Allegany Trail, Hagerstown's bike network, Garrett Composite mountain bike team, Broadford Park Trails and the Trail Towns program. The presentation materials are located on the MBPAC website.

IX. Closing Reminders and Adjournment (10 min)

Action items were reviewed. Patti Stevens would like to participate in a follow-up conversation at some point on ghost bikes. Nate Evans will coordinate the discussion in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Most members signed off before an adjournment motion, second or vote was taken.

The next MBPAC meeting will be held on Friday, July 23, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am.